

Free Press.

SAN MARCOS, TEXAS.

THURSDAY, JULY 10, 1884

HOME NEWS.

ARRIVAL OF PASSENGER TRAINS.

TRAINS FROM SAN MARCOS AS FOLLOWS:

Going South: 2:30 P. M. and 5:36 P. M.
Going North: 2:30 P. M. and 8:40 A. M.

AGENTS FOR THE FREE PRESS.

The following persons are duly authorized agents for the Free Press, and are empowered to receive and remit for notices for the same.

County at large—
J. K. FORTSON, County Assessor.
J. C. EYRE, County Surveyor.

San Marcos—
A. BEATON, P. M.
K. L. FORTSON, P. M.

Wintersville—
C. H. WATKINS, P. M.

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THE home crop of peaches is beginning to come in. As usual the late ones are likely to be seriously damaged by drought.

We learn the new jail is nearly completed, and that the county commissioners will meet next week to accept it.

The Microcosm for July to hand, is an usual brimful of scientific theories and research.

MARRIAGE LICENSE issued since our last record to the 7th inst.:
W. E. Moore and Jodie E. Barbee.

Choice vegetables have suddenly "played out." Our "irrigated" gardens, like all other suburban things, appear to fall in dry weather.

Most of our exchanges contain long lists of candidates' announcements. Have we no candidates for office in this county? or are they too modest to make the fact known in the usual manner?

The Sunny South printing company and advertising agency, late of Brownwood, removed to Waco, and soon after "busted." All right—it deserved to bust some time before it did.

ESQUIRE WYATT informs us that Mrs. Mary A. Bryant, of his vicinity aged 75 years, committed suicide on Tuesday of last week by cutting the veins of her arm with a razor.

The 4th was a day of quiet enjoyment at this place. The business houses were appropriately closed—something we believe we have never known before here on the 4th of July.

The article from the Galveston News by Mr. Young, on San Marcos, referred to in our last, appears on our first page. A limited number of extra copies of this week's paper will be printed. It will be found a good thing to circulate. Call and supply yourselves in time.

The latest annual catalogue of Coronal Institute has been laid on our table. It is very lucid and replete with good sense, and exhibits marked progress in the Institute and a fair outlook as to its future. The total number of pupils at the last session was 265.

We are in receipt of the catalogue of the San Houston State Normal School for the scholastic year 1883-4. It is a neatly printed pamphlet, giving full information about the institution. From the Huntsville Item we extract the history of the school found elsewhere in this issue, under the head of "The San Houston State Normal Institute."

EVERY SATURDAY of Austin and Every Sunday of San Antonio, both readable papers, are no more. They did not pay, and hence are not. We cannot say we regret the failure of the former, though the publishers are clever gentlemen, because it was an attempt to publish a paper worth \$2 a year at 50c, and hence the effect was in its tendency damaging to the newspaper business.

THAT lawn-mower is rather superfluous for the courthouse yard in its present condition. If the authorities had followed the advice of the FREE PRESS early in the season and cleaned off the stones and other rubbish and smoothed down the knobs and other inequalities, then the lawn mower might have come in with satisfactory results. As the case stands the attempt to use it remains one of Dr. Holmes' comparison about "hedge-hogs dressed in lace."

In the various mutations of fashion, at long intervals and for a short time the fickle goddess strikes on something rational and in good taste. Our "fashion editor" thinks this has actually occurred as respects the present style of ladies' dresses, far beyond anything which has prevailed since his youthful days. For many years past the female form divine has been disguised in the most outlandish fantastic and barbarous tawdry imaginings, so that the present change is quite delightful.

REFERRING to our moonlight voyage on the San Marcos, we were impressed, as every one must be, with the fact that with proper preparation San Marcos must be one of the chief watering places and summer resorts in the State. The fine boating facilities alone would ensure this. We hear and hope it is true, that the present owners of the water-power intend building a larger and better boat—something much needed. We hope they will also take effectual measures to clean up the "bonnets" and other vegetable matter which now mar the pleasure of boating.

The Lockhart Register and Luling Signal favor Seguin as the place of holding the Representative convention. What has the San Marcos FREE PRESS and Kyle News to say? It is not about time that the place and date for said convention should be announced?—[Seguin Times.]

We believe our people are not inclined to be particular as to the place of holding the convention. We await the call from the proper quarter.

To a young man away from home, friendless and forlorn in a great city the hours of peril are those between sunset and bed-time for the moon and the stars see more evil in a single hour than the sun in his whole day's circuit. The poet's visions of evening are all composed of tender and soothing images. It brings the wanderer to his home, the child to his mother's arms, the ox to his stall, and the weary laborer to rest. But to the gentle-hearted youth who is thrown upon the rocks of the pitiless city, and stands homeless amid a thousand homes, the approach of evening brings with it an aching sense of loneliness and desolation which comes down upon the spirit like darkness upon the earth. In this mood his best impulse becomes a snare to him; and he is led astray because he is social, affectionate, sympathetic and warm-hearted. If there be a young man thus circumstanced with in the sound of his voice, let me yet tell him that books are the friends of the friendless, and that a library is a home to the homeless.

A taste for reading will always carry you to converse with men who will influence their wit, and will teach you when weary, counsel you when perplexed, and sympathize with you at all times. Evil spirits in the middle ages were exorcised and driven away by bell, book and candle, and you want but two of these agents, the book and the candle.

—George D. Prentice.

The point to the above beautiful and truthful extract is that there should be in every well regulated town and village a public library and reading room for the benefit of the class above referred to. Sooner or later the people of San Marcos will start such an institution, and the sooner the better.

PERSONAL.

Geo. A. Franklin is at home again.

Miss Annie Haynes is visiting at Lockhart.

A number of our townspeople have gone on excursions in various directions.

Miss Ella and Alice Denton of Austin with Miss Harney of Louisville Ky., visited our town on Sunday.

Mr. Price, of Green & Price, is on his way to New York City to lay in their fall and winter stock.

Young Mr. Fly, of San Antonio, who is in the Exposition service, spent some days here recently and made us a call.

Rev. Mr. Hendon of the Baptist church held service on Sunday, and thinks he will be preaching regularly hereafter.

Messrs. Houchins and Pritchett continued their meetings at the Christian church during last week, and they are still going on.

A son of our townsman, Mr. Ezell, who has long been a resident of Honduras, we learn is now at home in this place.

The declaration of W. T. Jackson for sheriff, which appears elsewhere, will cause some surprise and disappointment among his numerous friends.

The handsome and appropriate sign of the Arctic Ice Cream saloon, the work of our accomplished townsman, W. F. Carter.

Mr. Harris being absent in attendance at district conference, Mr. Belvin occupied his pulpit in the morning and Mr. Gillett at night.

H. Carr Pritchett, of San Houston Normal Institute, was here last week on route for Gonzales to hold one of the summer Normal Schools, after which he will spend some further time at this place.

Major Donaldson, who went to the Fort Worth Convention, only returned a few days since, having been beguiling his time since at Lampasas, San Saba, and other points calling on his friends and sweethearts.

Maj. Donaldson informs us that Gen. Logan, the Republican candidate for Vice President of the United States, served under him as his adjutant in the Mexican war. Logan was then quite a young man.

Miss Georgia Coleman, who returned here sick some ten days since, we are glad to learn is convalescent. Her cousin, Miss Lee Smith, from west, is with her at the Mullins place boarding house.

We should have acknowledged in our last the present from Mr. Ezell, in the shape of a money in the comb from one of his wives. It was a most beautiful and delicious article. Mr. Fromme keeps it on sale at his drug store.

Hezekiah, Mr. Murchison's new tenant, has already come to grief, having been arrested and held to bail for burglarizing the house of Howard the High of the 4th.

Hezekiah is a Baptist preacher, and we learn had an appointment out for Sunday; we trust his congregation would not entirely inconsiderable.

We mentioned recently the return of the venerable Amariah Wilson. He is engaged in writing up the record of his family for his descendants. It is one of more than ordinary interest and credit, for he informs us he is a grandson of James Wilson, a member of the continental Congress of 1776 and one of the signers of the Declaration of Independence.

Mr. Houchins preached an interesting sermon on Sunday morning on the life and example of the Apostle Paul, a noble subject and well presented. At night he spoke on a "new heart." Mr. Houchins attracts attention and interest by the zeal and earnestness with which he gives himself to his work. We believe he has made a very favorable impression both as a minister and socially.

"Ye editor" was favored to take his first moonlight voyage at the head of our river on the night of the "glorious fourth" with a select company of interesting young folks, nearly all of whom were ladies, viz: Misses Russell, Baldwin, Ellison, Julian, Smith and Howard. Also Mr. and Mrs. Borden and a lady friend of theirs from west. We found also various other parties on the river. To us it was a very enjoyable occasion, and we felt very much in the spirit of repeating like experiences at future "full moons."

It seemed to us a very appropriate winging of a memorable day, and we always desired to have stand apart among our brightest and most pleasurable recollections.

We suggest that some enterprising ladies take steps towards beautifying our courthouse grounds. We feel sure that our business men would respond liberally to a call for funds for such a purpose. If properly approached the county officials would extend the grounds to the limits to which the square could be made very attractive at a small cost. Let us hear from the ladies on this subject.

The above was handed us by a friend, and we heartily endorse his suggestions. We advocated the extension of the courthouse grounds to their full limits on the completion of the new court house, and are still in favor of it. It should be done as a matter of course. The part lying out is at present of no use to anybody, whereas, if it were included the whole might be converted into a beautiful and attractive park, for the use and pleasure of the public. Laid out into walks, set with shrubbery and flowers, and refreshed by fountains from the water-works, it could be made a most delightful resort. That is the style to which cultivated communities generally do things, and we should not be behind in matters of this kind. The county convicts could be made to do the work, and the cost would be trifling. We saw them thus employed under guard at Monterey last year, and we might profit in this respect by the example of our Mexican neighbors.

Letter from Dr. Brackenridge.

W. C. Dugger to whom it was addressed, has handed us the following letter from Dr. Brackenridge, president of the Telephone-Telegraph Company, giving his proposition for constructing a line from this place to Blanco. Mr. Dugger thought its personal would be edifying to our people as indicative of the astonishing liberality of said Company: PROPOSITION TO CITIZENS OF BLANCO AND SAN MARCOS.

The Telephone-Telegraph Company will build and put in operation, a telephone or telegraph wire from San Marcos to Blanco on the following terms and conditions.

First—The said citizens shall deliver along the line (25) twenty-five cedar poles to the mile; (20) twenty feet long and (4) four inches in diameter at the top—free of charge to the Company.

Second—The citizens must pay for right of way for Company in Hays and Blanco counties, and also refund to the Company any & all amounts already paid for right of way, and be responsible to any party claiming pay for right of way.

Third—The said citizens to loan the Company (\$1,000.) One thousand dollars for which certificate of stock will be issued and which is to be refunded by services on and all lines the Company may own or control. R. J. BRACKENRIDGE, President.

P. S. I think the entire cost of right of way will not be over six hundred dollars, but the people seemed disposed to bleed the Company. Some time when down will give you a talk on the matter.

Legal Card.

W. D. Wood and Owen Ford have associated themselves together for the practice of law in civil matters in Hays county, Texas. Office in Wood's new building, up stairs. Oct. 31-ly.

We believe it will be generally conceded, upon a little thought, that our officials made a grave mistake in their sudden conclusion as to the location of the proposed bridge.

We think the right place for it unquestionably is near Smith's mill, about opposite the center of town. It would thus accommodate more people, in both town and country, than anywhere else, while the cost would be much less. And we learn the right-of-way would have been granted free by the land owners opposite town. As no work has as yet been done, we would respectfully suggest a reconsideration as to the place of building the bridge.

We mentioned the recent visit to this place of Mr. Denning, of the Palestine Advocate. Our readers will recollect that he resided here for several months in 1881, working on the FREE PRESS. We find in last week's Advocate the following notice of the changes which he observed to have taken place in San Marcos since the time named:

Passing Austin with Capt. Hinzle to San Marcos, we found that beautiful town on the rise, having added water-works and an ice factory to her comfort. The gardens usually so barren, are now irrigated and full of fruit, vegetables and flowers. A dam has been constructed, giving a picturesque fall to the water, which is resplendent with emerald hues. Messrs. Jones and Ostrom have the ice factory near the river's head. San Marcos is full of changes. If not of "change," The writer was pleased to meet Mr. Willie Nance, late of the Tyler marble works, but now connected with his brother Word in the furniture business. Mr. Word Nance and family are in Atlanta, Ga., for "his health."

Willie is an enterprising young man, and will get to the top of the ladder. We are under obligations to Willie for favors. San Marcos has a new and elegant stone courthouse. Called on Mr. Robbins, jeweler; Miss Russell, who has an enlarging book trade, and others. Messrs. Donaldson & Co., Judge Wood and others, have splendid stone houses; the latter's frame residence cost \$8,000. Fertile crops of grain, ribbon cane, corn, etc., are all about San Marcos. Called on Mr. Julian and son in their new office rooms. They print a good-sized sheet, and one decidedly in favor of temperance. In company with Willie Nance we attended an installation of Masonic officers for the Master Mason and Royal Arch lodges. We remember with special pleasure such congenial spirits as Judge Kone, O. C. Weems, A. H. Johnson, J. B. Johnson, Dr. Pritchett, Dr. Brackenridge and others. The hours of "refreshment" were filled with chicken and substantial fare. In the morning we arose as one refreshed from wine—the nights are so cool and strengthening—and before leaving took a farewell look at the beautiful river, which one might fairly bring tears to the eyes. Glad to meet that popular county treasurer Mr. John H. Patterson, who will probably hold his office "for all time." Also called on Mr. Fritz Lange, whom we regret to learn is in ill health.

Standing Advertisements.

Concerning what are known as "standing advertisements" in newspapers, which some merchants say are useless, it has been remarked, and truly, that they command confidence. The man who for years resides in a community and lives a reputable life, even though he be of moderate ability, will grow in the confidence and esteem of his fellows. On the same principle a newspaper advertisement becomes familiar to the eyes of the reader. It may not be carefully read every day, still it makes the name and business of the advertiser familiar, and his confidence and presence in the columns of a newspaper inspires confidence in the ability of the advertiser.

We recently published the above, but again give place to it on our local page, and commend it to the consideration of our advertising patrons, most of whom, as we know, consider standing advertisements "money thrown away." Yet such advertisements are universal among advertisers in every live city and town. We wonder on what grounds our advertisers have come to the conclusion that they are wiser than all the world besides.

Whiskey, brass hands and cajolery are losing their potency in the Austin municipal politics. It, too, marks the rising tide of political decency. God speed the day when they will never more be heard of either in municipal, state or national politics.

The above is from the Austin Statesman. Would that we could say as much for our community. But really all good people will join in the Statesman's closing aspiration.

We copy the following from a San Marcos special of the 7th to the San Antonio Express:

Preparations are being made to push the bridge over the San Marcos. Also work on the Blanco road has already been commenced. Next Monday Messrs. Rogers & Williamson will put on about twenty hands, and continue work until a first-class road is made.

Several judgments against the railroad company were obtained in the justice's court this week.

Mr. McLemore got about thirty subscribers to the Houston Post here a week or so ago, with the understanding that he was to write up the town, but up to date nothing of the kind has appeared in the Post. Several inquiries are being made about it.

The Waco Day says:

The Texas postcoasters are on hand early with their contributions for the Texas exhibit at the New Orleans exposition. Colonel Elliott, the chief commissioner from Texas, says he is already in receipt of letters from six ladies, all residents of the State, who desire to read publicly an original poem for Texas at the exposition. The fact should not be advertised too generally, however. It may deter people from visiting the exposition.

The commissioners should compromise by giving the authors permission to put their poems for gratuitous distribution, on condition that they will not attempt to read them to the unpoetic crowd.—[Galveston News.]

A LULING special of the 6th to the Galveston News, says:

A most distressing accident occurred this morning at Lockhart. Miss Flora Trigg, daughter of Dr. A. L. Trigg, of that place, was accidentally shot through the head by her little brother who was handling a pistol. When the messenger left she was only expected to live a few moments, as the ball entered the forehead.

Notice—Time is Up.

All parties knowing themselves in debt for beef will come forward and settle at once or their accounts will have to stop. It takes cash to buy cattle. We will sell for cash from this date on, choice lot steaks per pound 12 cents; shoulder steak, 10 cents. Shoulder roast down to 6 cents per pound. From this date will keep beef on ice, and ice-cold water-melons—also fresh butter, vegetable, etc.

—S. L. TOWNSHIP.

Stock for Sale.

The subscriber has about sixty head of cattle for sale, consisting of cows, calves, yearlings, and two year-olds—a large proportion females. But four old ones in the lot. The cattle are at my pasture, six miles west of the station, and I have a few three-year-old head steers in fair order. July 10th-ly. J. W. SCOTT.

A Tragical Affair.

DRAPIER SPRINGS, TEXAS.

It was recently, the weather was calm and delightful, the gentle breeze from the south cheerfully glided by, while the moon in tender gladness looked down in a manner almost as charming as the little brunette who sat by my side, in fact it was the happiest occasion I ever experienced in life, I felt as though it was impossible for one to be happier than I; in my estimation I had only to ask her to be mine, and we would at once agree. Time passed rapidly along, and I saw we would soon be at our journey's end, I had the clause so arranged in my mind that I thought it impossible for her to reject, but when it came to the point it was surprising. She said: (in a low but solemn tone) "Mr. ——— I care for you, only as a friend, and I don't know that I ever could care for you otherwise." I felt as if a thousand drops of preoccupation trickled down from my cheeks and upper lip like butter from a hot corn dodger. I was instantly speechless.

The moon went down, the fragrant breeze ceased, a storm appeared to threaten us, and by the way I was no longer happy, my anticipations were wrecked, and every thing was contrary to my wishes, you can imagine my state of mind, but I kinder think I will live over it, and you bet I'll be on the look out here after.

Yours & Etc.,

CALAMITY.

[We give the above, spelling and all, as we received it, presuming that to be a part or the "fun." As there may be others among our gentlemen readers who feel themselves crushed from a like cause, we beg to say for their comfort, that we think "Calamity" was by far too easily thrown off the track, and we should think the lady's refusal was by no means conclusive against him. We advise him to "try again" in the same direction.—Ed.]

A Valuable Horse Book for only Twenty-five Cents.

"A Treatise on the Horse and his Diseases" is the title of a valuable manual of 91 pages, of which 2,300,000 have been sold. For sale at the Free Press office, price 25 cents. Will be sent by mail, postage paid on receipt of price.

Transfers of Real Estate.

since our last record of July 7, 1884:

Ed. J. L. Green to J. H. Bales, 60 acres Verendell league, \$2,000.

S. B. Bales and wife to J. H. Bales, 26 acres Verendell league, \$700.

John H. Bales and wife to S. B. Bales, an undivided half interest in lot 5 in block 12, San Marcos, \$5.

Wm. Adams to L. J. Good, W. S. Burns, W. J. Jones and W. C. Roy, 1468 acres A. G. Davey survey, quit-claim, \$369.

R. J. Sledge to H. H. Huggins and P. T. Shelton, 600 acres Wm. Hemphill league, \$12,000.

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